

THE INVENTION CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
2           operation picture producing means for producing an  
3           operation picture containing indicia corresponding to a  
4           plurality of image processing functions among which a  
5           selection can be made by an external operation;  
6           display means for displaying said operation picture;  
7           position input means, including a portion placed over a  
8           screen of said display means to detect a touch operation as  
9           said external operation, said position input means having a  
10          first operating mode to enter a position designated by the  
11          touch operation as an absolute position on the operation  
12          picture displayed on said display means;  
13          identifying means for identifying a selected image  
14          processing function, among said plurality of image  
15          processing functions, based on the position entered through  
16          said position input means;  
17          image processing means for carrying out the image  
18          processing function identified by said identifying means;  
19          and  
20          output means for outputting the operation picture  
21          produced by said operation picture producing means to an  
22          external display device.  
23          wherein, when the operation picture is output to the  
24          external display device through said output means, said  
25          position input means <sup>can operate</sup> ~~operates~~ in a second operating mode to  
26          enter the position designated by the touch operation as a

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27 relative position on the operation picture displayed on the  
28 external display device.

1 2. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2 1, further comprising:  
3 display control means for turning off a display of the  
4 operation picture on said display means when the operation  
5 picture is output to the external display device through  
6 said output means.

1 3. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2 1, further comprising:  
3 image adding means for adding a cursor, indicating the  
4 position entered through said position input means, to the  
5 operation picture produced by said operation picture  
6 producing means and supplied to said output means.

1 4. An imaging processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2 1, further comprising:  
3 remote input means for allowing the external operation  
4 to be performed by a remote operation, and  
5 wherein, when the operation picture is output to the  
6 external display device through said output means, said  
7 position input means operates in said second mode to enter  
8 the position designated by the remote operation as a  
9 relative position on the operation screen displayed on the  
10 external display device, and

11           said identifying means identifies a selected image  
12   processing function among said plurality of image processing  
13   functions, based on the position entered through said remote  
14   input means.

1           5. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2   4, further comprising:  
3           image adding means for adding a cursor, indicating the  
4   position entered through said remote input means, to the  
5   operation picture produced by said operation picture  
6   producing means and supplied to said output means.

1           6. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2   1, and which is constituted by an electronic camera.

1           7. An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
2           an operation picture producing portion which produces  
3   an operation picture containing indicia corresponding to a  
4   plurality of image processing functions among which a  
5   selection can be made by an operator;  
6           an image display unit;  
7           an output unit which outputs said operation picture to  
8   an external display device;  
9           a position input portion which inputs a position  
10   designated by the operator on the operation picture  
11   displayed on the external display device;

12           an identifying portion which identifies a selected  
13   image processing function, among said plurality of image  
14   processing functions, based on the designated position input  
15   by said position input portion; and  
16           an image processing portion which carries out the  
17   selected image processing function.

1           8. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2   7, wherein said position input portion is constructed to  
3   input a position designated by the operator, on the  
4   operation picture displayed on the external display device,  
5   with a remote control which provides a signal to said  
6   position input portion.

1           9. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2   7, wherein said position input portion includes a touch-  
3   responsive unit, having a portion placed over a screen of  
4   said image display unit, with which the operator can  
5   designate a position on the operating picture displayed on  
6   the external display device by touch operation.

1           10. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2   9, wherein said image display unit is connected to said  
3   operation picture producing portion to display the operation  
4   picture; said position input portion has a first operating  
5   mode to input a position designated by the operator via said  
6   touch-responsive unit on the operation picture displayed on

7     said image display unit, and a second operating mode to  
8     input a position designated by the operator via said touch-  
9     responsive unit on the operation picture displayed on the  
10    external display device.

1           11. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2     10, wherein said position input portion is constructed to  
3     input a position designated by the operator, on the  
4     operation picture displayed on the external display device,  
5     with a remote control which provides a signal to the  
6     position input portion.

1           12. An image processing apparatus as defined in Claim  
2     7, and which is constituted by an electronic camera.

1           13. An operating method of an image processing  
2     apparatus having an image display unit and an output unit  
3     which is to be connected to an external display device, said  
4     method comprising:

5           producing an operation picture containing indicia  
6     corresponding to a plurality of image processing functions  
7     among which a selection can be made;

8           outputting the operation picture to the external  
9     display device;

10          inputting a position designated by the operator on the  
11     operation picture displayed on the external display device;

12 identifying a selected image processing function, among  
13 said plurality of image processing functions, based on the  
14 input position; and  
15 performing the selected image processing function.

1 14. A method as defined in Claim 13, wherein said  
2 position is designated by the operator performing a touch  
3 operation of a touch-responsive unit having a touch portion  
4 placed over a screen of said image display unit.

1 15. A method as defined in Claim 13, wherein said  
2 position is designated by the operator with a remote control  
3 unit which provides a signal to the image processing  
4 apparatus.

1 16. A method as defined in Claim 13, wherein said  
2 inputting constitutes one of two selectable inputting modes,  
3 the other of said inputting modes including inputting a  
4 position designated by the operator on the operation picture  
5 displayed on said image display unit.

1 17. A method as defined in Claim 13, wherein said  
2 image processing apparatus is an electronic camera.